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9 December 1983

AIRMAIL

Mr. John H. Bass
Reddie & Grose
16 Theobalds Road
London WC1X 8PL England

Dear John:

RE: U.K. Application 81 14158
Your File: 23844 - Our File: (Delta) PM 1088/1089

Thank you for your letter of 24 November enclosing the latest official action. Robert Shaw and I have discussed this by phone.

I had some trouble correlating the quotations from the specification by the Examiner with the place cited, but I think that the following comments are in order.

3. You may delete references to prior art if that will move things along.

4. Claim 13 seems satisfactory as a first method claim.

5. I certainly agree with your interpretation. Water and the other solvent, if present, serve to release potential binder from the tobacco. Robert's response of 4 October has of course discarded the water-only embodiment.

6. We would prefer to keep the broadest claim general as to the shaping procedure (even though there may be no examples to support other procedures than extrusion). Do what seems to hold some hope.

8. It would seem to be necessary to delete Examples 22-24 since they employ only water.

Very truly yours,

G. Esler Inskeep

cc: Robert Shaw, Esq.
L. Turano
S. Hutcheson

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